IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

EVERETT JEROME TRIPODIS,

DEFENDANT.

DOCKET NUMBER 1:05-CR-381-ODE

ATLANTA, GEORGIA MOTION HEARING JULY 23, 2007

TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE-RECORDED PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE ALAN J. BAVERMAN, UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE.

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT: U. S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BY: A.U.S.A. JOSEPH PLUMMER

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

FOR DEFENDANT: L. DAVID WOLFE, ESQ.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

ANDY ASHLEY TRANSCRIBED BY:

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1949 U.S. COURTHOUSE

75 SPRING STREET ATLANTA, GA 30303

(404) 215-1478

PROCEEDINGS RECORDED BY TAPE, TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED BY COMPUTER.

(IN ATLANTA, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, MONDAY, 07-23-07; 2 IN OPEN COURT.) 3 THE COURT: THIS IS THE CASE OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VERSUS EVERETT TRIPODIS. IT'S CASE NUMBER 1:05-CR-4 5 381. IT'S ASSIGNED TO JUDGE EVANS AND WITH JUDGE FELDMAN'S 6 RETIREMENT, IT HAS BEEN REFERRED TO ME BY JUDGE EVANS. 7 PLUMMER IS HERE REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES. MR. WOLFE IS HERE REPRESENTING MR. TRIPODIS. I SET THIS DOWN FOR A 8 9 HEARING TODAY. THERE ARE ACTUALLY TWO MOTIONS. THERE'S MR. 10 WOLFE'S MOTION WHICH IS DOCUMENT 125, A MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL. AND MR. TRIPODIS HAD FILED A PRO SE MOTION 11 REQUESTING APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL FOR APPEAL WHICH IS 12 13 DOCUMENT NUMBER 111. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS 14 PENDING BUT IF I LET MR. WOLFE WITHDRAW, THEY WILL AWAIT NEW 15 COUNSEL TO BE ABLE TO REPRESENT MR. TRIPODIS. SO WE CAN 16 TALK ABOUT THOSE. 17 FIRST OF ALL, WHAT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION? 18 A.U.S.A. PLUMMER: YOUR HONOR, I DON'T THINK THE 19 GOVERNMENT HAS ANY INTEREST IN ATTORNEY/CLIENT RELATIONSHIP 20 BETWEEN MR. WOLFE AND MR. TRIPODIS. 21 THE COURT: OKAY. ALL RIGHT, WELL, I FIGURED THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY, MR. PLUMMER, BUT I WANTED TO 22 HAVE YOU HERE. NOW, HOWEVER, I'M GOING TO EXCUSE YOU. AND 23 24 IF YOU WOULD JUST REMAIN OUT IN THE HALLWAY, I'LL CALL YOU 25 BACK IN.

A.U.S.A. PLUMMER: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU.

BACK AND FORTH WITH REGARD TO THOSE THINGS.

ME HEAR FROM YOU.

THE COURT: OKAY, THE RECORD SHOULD REFLECT THAT MR.

PLUMMER HAS LEFT THE COURTROOM. ALL RIGHT, MR. WOLFE, LET

MR. WOLFE: OKAY. GOOD MORNING, JUDGE. JUDGE, I DO
WANT TO SAY FOR YOU AND THE RECORD THAT MR. TRIPODIS AND I
ACTUALLY HAVE A PRETTY GOOD RELATIONSHIP, IN FACT A VERY
GOOD RELATIONSHIP. WE'VE WORKED VERY HARD ON THE
ALLEGATIONS IN HIS CASE THAT WERE PRETTY ALL-ENCOMPASSING.
WHEN WE RESOLVED THIS CASE WITH A PLEA, IT WAS DURING THE
PLEA HEARING THAT CERTAIN THINGS OCCURRED THAT MADE, THE WAY
I UNDERSTAND IT, MR. TRIPODIS BELIEVE THAT THERE HAD BEEN
SOME VIOLATIONS OF THE PLEA AGREEMENT. HE AND I HAVE TALKED

THERE WERE ALSO -- THERE ARE ALSO SOME APPELLATE ISSUES,

ONE IN PARTICULAR THAT I THINK IS AN INTERESTING AND GOOD

ISSUE, BUT I WAS RETAINED TO REPRESENT HIM FOR THE

INDICTMENTS THAT WERE PENDING AGAINST HIM AND I DID

REPRESENT HIM HERE IN FEDERAL COURT AND I'M STILL

REPRESENTING HIM OVER IN STATE COURT. I WASN'T RETAINED TO

DO AN APPEAL IN THIS CASE AND MR. TRIPODIS DOESN'T HAVE THE

RESOURCES TO DO AN APPEAL.

AS WE REVIEW THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE SENTENCING HEARING,

MR. PLUMMER HAS RESPONDED -- JUDGE EVANS DID NOT ASK FOR ANY

JONES EXCEPTIONS AND SHE DIDN'T ADVISE MR. TRIPODIS OF HIS

EXCEPTION.

RIGHTS TO APPEAL. MR. TRIPODIS'S SENTENCING ALSO DEALT WITH WHETHER OR NOT HIS SENTENCE SHOULD RUN CONCURRENTLY OR CONSECUTIVELY TO HIS SUPERVISED RELEASE REVOCATION WHICH HAD ENDED SOME NINETEEN MONTHS BEFORE. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SENTENCING, WE DEALT WITH THE SUPERVISED RELEASE REVOCATION AND WHETHER OR NOT IT SHOULD RUN CONCURRENTLY OR CONSECUTIVELY. MS. EVANS ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY EXCEPTIONS, AND I RESPONDED TO WHAT SHE HAD DONE BY RUNNING THE CASES CONSECUTIVELY SINCE HE HAD -- THIS INDICTMENT WASN'T RETURNED UNTIL AFTER HE HAD BEEN SENTENCED -- HE HAD BEEN SENTENCED AND FINISHED WITH HIS NINETEEN MONTHS OF SUPERVISED RELEASE REVOCATION. AND I DID RESERVE THAT

MR. PLUMMER HAS SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS AT SENTENCING -WHEN I SAY RESERVED, SHE SAID ANY EXCEPTIONS AND I SAID
YEAH, JUDGE, HIS GUIDELINES FOR THE SUPERVISED RELEASE WERE
TEN MONTHS AND HE GOT NINETEEN MONTHS. YOU SHOULD AT LEAST
RUN THE NINE MONTHS THAT JUDGE TIDWELL -- WENT OVER THOSE
SORTS OF THINGS, I ARGUED SPECIFICALLY THAT ISSUE. MR.
PLUMMER IS SUGGESTING THAT THAT MAY HAVE BEEN A JONES
INQUIRY AND IF IT WAS THAT IF I DIDN'T PRESERVE SOME OF THE
OTHER ISSUES, I MAY HAVE BEEN INEFFECTIVE WHICH I GUESS SOME
APPELLATE COUNSEL WOULD HAVE TO RAISE OTHER THAN MYSELF.

IF I AM ALLOWED TO WITHDRAW, AND IF MR. TRIPODIS IS

APPOINTED NEW APPELLATE COUNSEL OR COUNSEL TO HELP HIM WITH

MANNER IN WHICH THE SENTENCE WAS IMPOSED. BUT CERTAINLY THE

GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN IT THAT WAY AND IF IN FACT IT IS TO BE

INTERPRETED AS SATISFYING THE JONES RULE, THEN THERE COULD

BE -- THERE WILL MORE THAN LIKELY BE AN ISSUE AS TO WHETHER

OR NOT MR. WOLFE WAS INEFFECTIVE FOR NOT PRESERVING MY

OBJECTIONS WITH REGARDS TO THE OTHER ISSUES AT THE

SENTENCING HEARING.

SO THIS ISN'T A SITUATION WHERE, YOU KNOW, I'M FIGHTING WITH MR. WOLFE OR WHERE, YOU KNOW, I THINK HE'S A BAD GUY AND, YOU KNOW, HE RUINED MY LIFE. IT'S JUST BASICALLY I DIDN'T APPOINT -- I DIDN'T -- I CAN'T AFFORD TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY ON MY OWN AND THERE MAY BE SOME INEFFECTIVE ISSUES THERE I MIGHT HAVE TO RAISE.

THE COURT: OKAY, MR. WOLFE, I NEED TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOU WERE PAID, UNDER THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT RULES.

MR. WOLFE: I KNOW HOW MUCH IT WAS. I THINK IT WAS IN 2005. MY ENTRY OF APPEARANCE WILL BE REFLECTED ON THE DOCKET. I WAS PAID \$35,000. AND I AM HANDLING THIS CASE. AND IF YOU LOOK AT THE DOCKET, WE'VE DONE A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK IN THIS CASE, BUT I'M ALSO HANDLING TWO FELONY INDICTMENTS THAT WERE RETURNED IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY WITH REGARD TO MR. TRIPODIS, ALL FOR THE SAME THING. AND THOSE CASES ARE STILL PENDING DOWN THERE.

THE COURT: IS THAT -- IT'S NOT A SITUATION WHERE AS A RESULT OF MR. TRIPODIS'S FEDERAL SENTENCE, THE STATE AUTHORITIES ARE GOING TO REMIT?

MR. WOLFE: UNDER THE STATUTORY DOUBLE JEOPARDY

STATUTE, I HAVE A MOTION WITH REGARD TO ONE OF THOSE CASES.

WITH REGARD TO THE OTHER CASE, THE ANSWER IS NO, JUDGE.

THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. I THINK BASED ON THE

STATEMENTS OF MR. TRIPODIS THAT A CLAIM MIGHT HAVE TO BE

BROUGHT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT CERTAIN OBJECTIONS WERE MADE.

ALTHOUGH THAT CAN'T BE RAISED ON DIRECT APPEAL AND THERE'S

AN ISSUE IN MY MIND AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I HAVE, OR JUDGE

EVANS HAS, JURISDICTION TO RULE ON ANY OF THE PENDING

MOTIONS BECAUSE THERE WAS A NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED. BUT

WE'LL ADDRESS THAT. BASED ON ALL THAT, I WILL GRANT THE

MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL.

MR. WOLFE: MAY I SHARE ONE THING WITH YOU, JUDGE?

JUST SO YOU KNOW, THERE WAS A -- WITH REGARD TO THE POST
SENTENCING MOTIONS, MR. TRIPODIS FILED THEM WITH AN EYE

TOWARDS WHAT YOU JUST MENTIONED.

THE COURT: RIGHT, I UNDERSTAND THAT.

MR. WOLFE: AND HE FILED THE NOTICE OF APPEAL LAST,
SO THAT WAS NUMBER ONE. BUT NUMBER TWO, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE
SOME APPEAL WAIVERS IN HIS PLEA AGREEMENT, THERE WAS -JUDGE EVANS DID UPWARDLY DEPART FROM THE OTHERWISE GUIDELINE
RANGE, SO I THINK THERE IS AN APPELLATE -- THERE ARE
APPELLATE ISSUES.

THE COURT: OKAY. WELL, I'M -- I WILL GRANT YOUR

MOTION, AS WELL AS MR. TRIPODIS'S MOTION. I'M GOING TO LET

MR. WOLFE: I COULD -- THE OTHER WAY, I COULD GIVE

THERE'S INTEREST, SO I'M NOT COMPLETELY SURE AS TO EXACTLY

TWO YEARS WOULD LIKELY BE CONFLICTED OUT, SO WE'LL HAVE TO

FIND SOMEBODY WHO'LL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU. AND THEN I WILL

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RECONFIRM WITH JUDGE EVANS THAT SHE WANTS ME TO HANDLE WHATEVER MATTERS ARE STILL PENDING.

MR. TRIPODIS: OKAY.

MR. WOLFE: MAY I ASK ONE QUESTION, JUDGE? HE WAS SENTENCED, I DON'T KNOW, WITHIN THE LAST SIXTY DAYS AND WILL SOON BE IN TRANSIT. I DON'T KNOW IF THERE IS -- I DON'T KNOW WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DO WHAT, BUT IS THERE ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO KEEP HIM HERE UNTIL THAT PERSON IS APPOINTED AND AT LEAST THE MOTIONS PENDING HERE IN COURT ARE RESOLVED?

THE COURT: MY RECOLLECTION IS THERE IS, BECAUSE I USED TO DO IT, BUT I'M TRYING TO THINK ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT IT'S FEDERAL AS WELL AS STATE. BUT I'LL APPOINT SOMEBODY TODAY WHO CAN JUMP ON THAT FAIRLY QUICKLY. IF YOU COULD CALL MR. PLUMMER BACK IN.

[A.U.S.A. PLUMMER RETURNS TO COURTROOM.]

ALL RIGHT, MR. PLUMMER, I MADE INQUIRY OF MR. WOLFE AND MR. TRIPODIS AND I THINK THAT IT'S PRUDENT TO ASSIGN ANOTHER LAWYER TO MR. TRIPODIS AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS. HE QUALIFIES FOR COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL AND I WILL APPOINT A LAWYER TO REPRESENT HIM. AT THAT POINT, I WILL DO TWO THINGS. FIRST, I WILL CONFIRM WITH JUDGE EVANS THAT SHE WANTS ME TO HANDLE THE MATTER OF THE OTHER MOTIONS THAT ARE PENDING AND I WILL ISSUE AN ORDER. ONE OF THE QUESTIONS I HAVE IS WHETHER OR NOT THIS COURT, THE DISTRICT COURT, HAS

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     JURISDICTION TO RULE ON ANY OF THE MATTERS. SO I'LL ISSUE A
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     BRIEFING SCHEDULE SO I CAN HEAR FROM NEW COUNSEL AND FROM
3
     THE GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO THAT. OKAY?
          IS THERE ANYTHING FURTHER WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT TODAY?
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              MR. WOLFE: NO, THANK YOU. CAN I HAVE MY --
              THE COURT: YOU MAY HAVE YOUR --
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              MR. WOLFE: MAY I.
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              THE COURT: -- PSR BACK. OBVIOUSLY, YOU'RE
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     DIRECTED TO COOPERATE WITH NEW COUNSEL, AS I'M SURE YOU
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     WILL.
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              MR. WOLFE: YES, SIR.
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              THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. WE'LL BE IN RECESS. THANK
     YOU ALL FOR COMING IN.
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                            [COURT ADJOURNED.]
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
3	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA:
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5	I, ANDY ASHLEY, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER OF THE
6	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
7	GEORGIA, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING 11 PAGES
8	CONSTITUTES A TRUE TRANSCRIPT, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, OF
9	THE TAPE-RECORDED PROCEEDINGS HAD BEFORE THE SAID COURT,
10	HELD IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, IN THE MATTER THEREIN
11	STATED.
12	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HEREUNTO SET MY HAND ON
13	THIS, THE DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2008.
14	
15	ANDY ASHLEY
16	OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
17	ONTIED STATES DISTRICT COOKT
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